

### L. F. S. Alden

#### **Syntax and Statecraft: A Spreadsheet for Aragorn**

Aragorn adapts his style of speech to his audience and to his role in each moment. A close analysis of his syntax and morphology in \*The Lord of the Rings\* helps us appreciate his skill as one who unites diverse people, inspires warriors into battle, and accrues personal loyalty. We will examine contractions, word order, and diction and particularly changes in these over time and across conversation partners.

*Sparrow Alden is a competitive knitter, religious educator, and fledgling novelist. She and her family are owner/builders of a passive solar straw bale cabin in the New Hampshire woods. Her publications include a booklet of ideas for interfaith families and several knitting patterns, including one in honor of the Oxford comma.*



**MYTHGARD INSTITUTE**  
from Sigmum University